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SEVENTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
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New York, 13-22 January 1998
Item 5 (e) of the provisional agenda*

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION: TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS

"Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors: Federal Republic of Germany" (third edition)

Paper submitted by Germany**

* E/CONF.91/1.

** Prepared by Jörn Sievers, Chairman, Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN) (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names).

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Toponymic guidelines constitute one of the most important and effective measures for promoting speedily the urgently needed international standardization of the spelling of geographical names. In Germany the Ständiger Ausschuss für geographische Namen (StAGN) (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names) is concerned with the spelling of geographical names and the preparation of corresponding recommendations or guidelines.

The toponymic guidelines of Germany were presented for the first time at the ninth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), held in New York in 1981. A preliminary second edition was prepared - as a result of the German reunification - within a short time and submitted to the Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in New York in 1992.

The third edition of "Toponymic guidelines for map and other editors: Federal Republic of Germany" was thoroughly checked and comprehensively updated after an administrative reform in the five new Länder (federal states). Explanations on the languages of the cultural and linguistic communities of the Sorbs and Danes in Germany and on German dialects were extended and supplemented by sketch maps of the dispersal areas.

For the convenience of interested users at both the national and international levels these guidelines are for the first time being published in German and English. Single copies can be obtained from:

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